

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-10 CIAE-00 /028 W
-----046308 081753Z /41

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FM USMISSION SINAI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4224
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS SINAI 1545

FOR SSM

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN
SUBJECT: VISIT OF JOURNALISTS TORGERSON AND FREEDMAN
TO SFM

1. ON THURSDAY JULY 7 DIAL TORGERSON, JERUSALEM BUREAU CHIEF FOR THE LOS ANGELES TIMES AND MATTHEW FREEDMAN, REPRESENTING THE GANNET NEWSPAPER CHAIN, VISITED SFM. THEY ARRIVED AT 1100 HOURS LT AND DEPARTED AT 1630 HOURS LT.

2. UPON ARRIVAL THEY WERE BRIEFED THOROUGHLY BY THE DIRECTOR AND BY ESY PROGRAM MANAGER. THE TWO WERE GIVEN A TECHNICAL BRIEFING AND VISIT TO GIDDI EAST BY THE OPERATIONS MANAGER. A TOUR OF THE FACILITIES WAS THEN GIVEN BY THE PROGRAM MANAGER FOLLOWED BY A FINAL SHORT WRAP-UP MEETING WITH THE DIRECTOR.

3. TORGERSON HAD PREVIOUSLY VISITED SFM IN SEPTEMBER 1976. HE APPEARED IMPRESSED WITH THE CHANGES. HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE FUTURE CAPABILITIES OF SFM-TYPE OPERATIONS IN LIGHT OF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S REMARKS AT THE UN AND MORE RECENTLY IN JERUSALEM. TORGERSON EXPECTS AN ARTICLE TO BE PRINTED SOON ON SFM AND THE FUTURE ROLE OF SFM-TYPE MONITORING IN THE WEST BANK AND/OR OTHER LOCATIONS. MR. FREEDMAN, WHILE NOT AS PROFESSIONAL AS TORGERSON, WAS INTERESTED IN THE OVER-ALL OPERATION
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OF SFM AND SEEMED QUITE IMPRESSED WITH WHAT HE SAW. HE IS WORKING ON AN IN-DEPTH SERIES FOR GANNET ON SOCIO-POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE SINAI. HE HAS INDICATED THAT HE WILL SEND COPIES OF HIS SERIES TO SFM PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

4. BOTH VISITORS WERE POSITIVE ABOUT SFM AND ITS ROLE IN THE SINAI. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT ANYTHING PUBLISHED WOULD

GENERALLY REFLECT THIS VIEW.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, JOURNALISTS, BUFFER AREAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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